

## WINDOWS BROKEN BY 'BIG BERTHAS'

Havoc Caused by Firing of German Gun is Told in Letter From Officer.

BERLIN, Sept. 3.—In a letter from Flanders Capt. Carl Schroeder of the 79th reserve infantry, gives a striking picture of a German 42-centimeter gun at work. He writes: "We had an eventful week. First Landsturm troops arrived. They possessed themselves of the houses of the village and took things easy for a few days. Then a railroad battalion came and we got busy. Within 24 hours we put down about five miles of tracks. The quickly built line began at the depot of the small town of — and ended near a large swamp in the neighborhood of our village. At daybreak a long train of flat cars came creeping over our line. The train brought a 'Big Bertha' and its attachments. Six hours later the giant 42-centimeter mortar was placed in position on a concrete foundation beneath a big tree.

"The population of the district was kept at a respectable distance while the work was going on amid torrents of rain. No civilian was allowed to approach the improvised railroad and our village. The inhabitants of the nearby towns only knew that something big was in preparation and they waited awestruck for further developments.

"In the early morning of the next day 'Big Bertha' went into action and began throwing shells on a fortified town 21 miles distant. At the first shot the pressure of the air snatched every window in our village. The houses rocked as if they had been struck by a fearful cyclone. Two of them jumped from their foundations and collapsed.

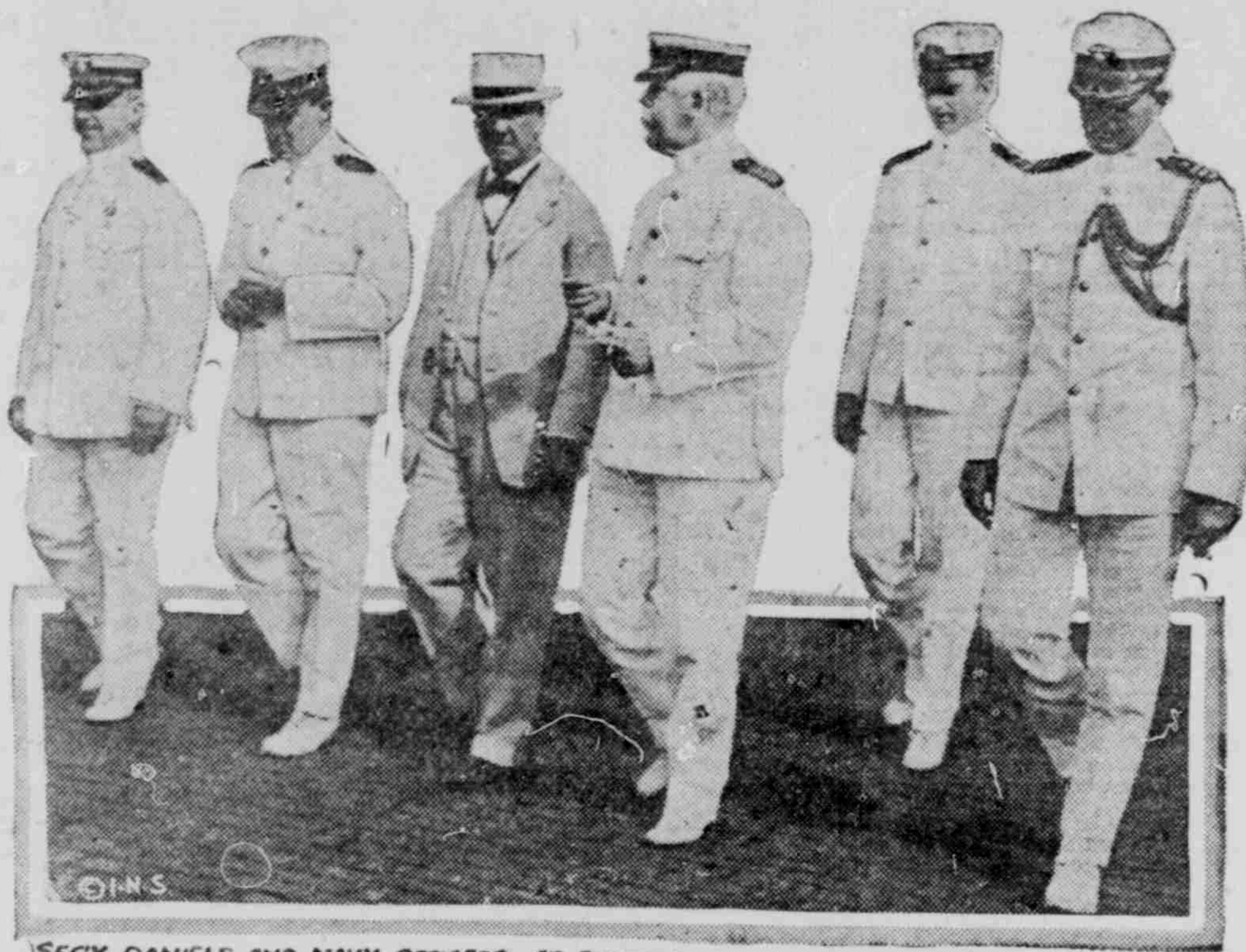
"Every 20 minutes a shot was fired and we quickly became accustomed to the infernal noise.

"The firing of this monster gun was a sight too indescribable to grandeur. With a dull, deafening roar a ding of fire rose from the mouth of the mortar to a height of about a hundred feet and then we could see the immense shell as it sped toward its destination through the clear morning air. The shell looked like an enormous rubber ball propelled through space with the speed of lightning.

"The queerest thing about these monster mortars is that you do not feel the shock of the shot if you stand close to them. The officer who discharges the gun by pressing an electric button assured me that he felt no physiological effect whatever and hardly heard the roar.

"The Frenchmen became awfully mad when 'Big Bertha' started to work. Their aviators appeared and soon discovered the position of the gun, but the French artillery was powerless as they could not reach us with their heavy field pieces. Finally an English armored battery came to the aid of the French, but the Britishers only succeeded in having their 15-centimeter guns silenced and destroyed."

## Sec'y Daniels Meets Governors



SECY. DANIELS AND NAVY OFFICERS AT BOSTON.

The picture shows Sec'y of the Navy Daniels received by navy officers upon his arrival in Boston to attend the eighth annual governors' conference and urge upon the state executives the necessity of a larger navy and more complete auxiliary equipment, such as submarines and airships.

## Launches Scheme To Sterilize 15 Million Americans

NEW YORK, Sept. 3.—Mrs. E. H. Harriman's gigantic eugenic enterprise at Cold Springs Harbor, L. I., to ascertain "what is the matter with the human race," launched a campaign Thursday for the sterilization of 15,000,000 Americans.

Coincident with this amazing statement comes the announcement of the plans of the eugenic society which will have at its disposal the vast fortune of Mrs. Harriman, liberal financial assistance from John D. Rockefeller and Andrew Carnegie and scientific aid from Alexander Graham Bell and the greatest host of scientists ever joined in a great undertaking.

For four years preliminary work has been quietly conducted not only at Cold Springs Harbor, but by field workers all over the world. With the completion and opening of the new record office at Cold Springs Harbor today the International News Service was given the first insight into the work already accomplished and what is expected to be done.

The board which will have direction of the work consisting of the following famous men: Alexander Graham Bell, inventor of

the telephone, scientist and philanthropist, chairman; Dr. William H. Welch, pathologist of Johns Hopkins university, Baltimore, vice-chairman; Dr. L. P. Barker of Johns Hopkins, and president of the National Commission for Mental Hygiene; Dr. H. T. Morgan, zoologist of New York; Irving Fisher, professor of political economy at Yale, and Dr. E. E. Southard, the famous pathologist of Boston.

The secretary to the board and resident director is Dr. Charles B. Davenport, the New York biologist. H. H. Laughlin is superintendent, and Prof. Howard J. Barker, a noted biologist of Depauw university, has been installed as scientific expert. With his wife he has moved into the superintendent's house and will become acting superintendent, while Prof. Laughlin spends a year traveling for the institution.

The organization after its four years' work in this country and Europe reached the conclusion that sterilization defectives was the greatest work before them. The committee on sterilization in its report issued Thursday demands the sterilization of 22,400 persons in this country this year.

## EVACUATE ALBANIA.

VIENNA, Sept. 2.—In order to avoid a conflict with Greece the Serbian government has ordered the evacuation of all Albanian localities within the Grecian sphere of influence.

## GREAT BRITAIN GROWS

Empire Has Taken on Territory Since War Started.

LONDON, Sept. 3.—The London Chronicle declares that since the beginning of the war the British empire has increased by 3,236,000 square miles or nearly a third. The empire before the war comprised 11,434,822 miles, including Egypt, the Sudan and Cyprus, which were technically Turkish.

In its figures the newspaper includes the Cameroons, the conquest of which is not yet complete. They comprise 191,200 square miles. The other additions are Egypt, 400,000; Sudan, 984,000; Cyprus, 3,600; Arabia, 1,200,000; German South West Africa, 322,450; Togoaland, 32,700; German New Guinea (and Pacific Islands), 101,050 square miles. Australia has added 100,000 square miles and New Zealand 1,050.

## NEW WORDS ARE COINED

LONDON, Sept. 3.—The war has enriched the English tongue. Among the new words listed by a London newspaper are slacker, strafe, respirator, conductress, curtain of fire, bombed, gassed, submarined, dug out, U. boat, war plane and Anzac (Australian New Zealand Army Corps.)

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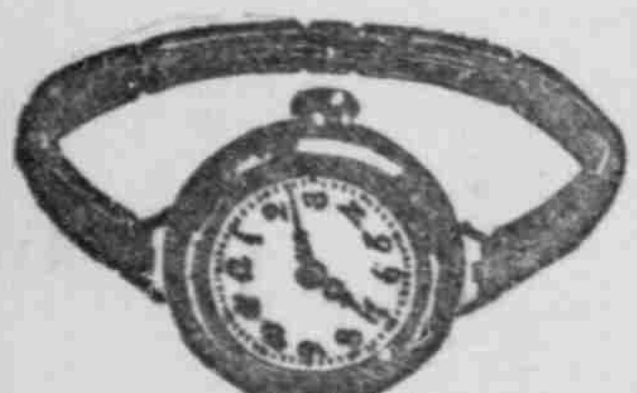
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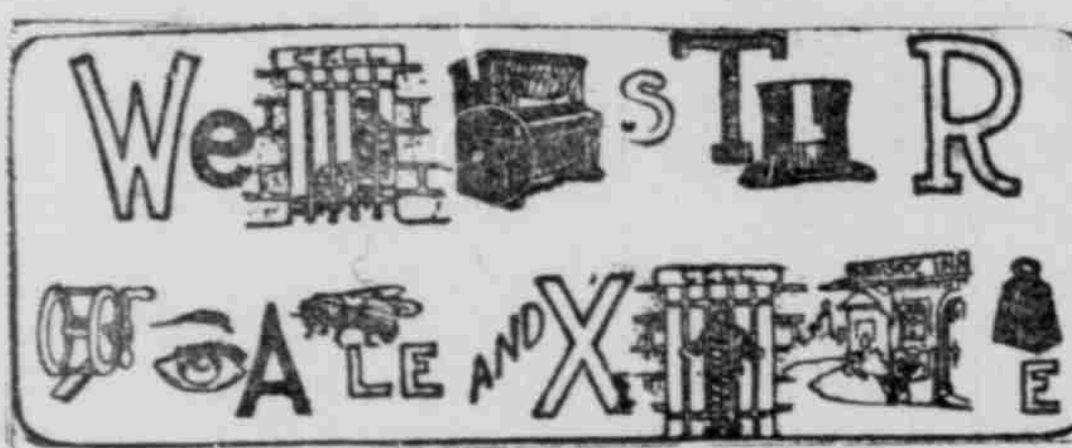
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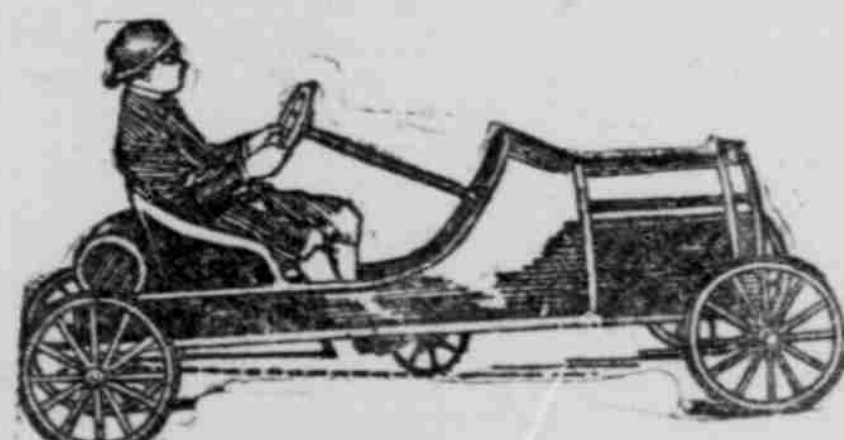
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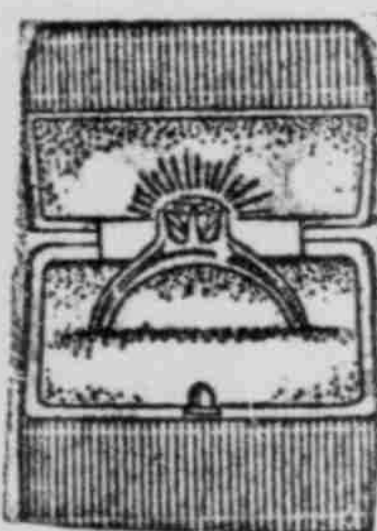


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